

♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

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Voters Narrowly Choose to Stay With Open Town Meeting



Voters approve an article at the annual town meeting in 2010

(Lamoine) - As voters in Lamoine cast their ballot for Governor and the Legislature, they also shared their opinion on whether town meeting should continue to be conducted at an open meeting, or by secret ballot referendum. It was a close split, but the open town meeting option passed, 436 to 404. As Selectmen Richard Fennelly Jr. put it at the next Board of Selectmen meeting, “that should put this issue to rest for a while”.

Selectmen took a very careful look at requests by some voters to decide all town meeting issues by secret ballot. An informal survey was distributed at the primary election in June, and the results, while inconclusive, provided some helpful comments. The vote on November 2nd

simply asked whether voters preferred to decide town meeting matters at an open meeting or by secret ballot. The vote was advisory in nature. Selectmen had been advised previously that because there is no town charter, the Board could not be bound by any particular method, as state laws give Selectmen the right to set town meeting dates and styles. A petition a few years ago had requested the town vote on an ordinance that would require referendum voting.

The Board of Selectmen did not think that feelings were strongly one way or the other on the issue. The survey seemed to show a division of opinion, and the final vote confirmed the town was split.

Annual Town Meeting Date Set for March

(Lamoine) - The annual town meeting for Lamoine will take place on March 15 and 16, 2011. Election Day for municipal officers will be Tuesday (the 15th), with the open town meeting taking place on Wednesday (the 16th). Polls will be open from 10am to 8pm on Tuesday, and the annual town meeting will get under way at 6PM on Wednesday.

Selectmen picked the dates after requesting research on turnout for annual town meetings in the past. Attendance data was available for the past 17-years or so, and town clerk Jennifer Kovacs compiled them.

An analysis of those attendance figures showed that March was the month with highest attendance, and that attendance on a week night was much better than a Saturday town meeting. Selectmen wondered if moving the town meeting to May might spur “snow birds” to attend after returning home for the summer. The figures showed that May was the worst month for attendance.

Besides the day and time, Selectmen realize that the issues to be decided also drive town meeting attendance. The annual town meeting will again be moderated by Harvey Kelley who has led the voting for many years.

Nomination Papers Available

(Lamoine) - Petitions for candidates to appear on the March 15, 2010 ballot are now available from the Lamoine Town Clerk’s Office. Only two positions will be filled this year, a Selectman and an Assessor’s seat.

Folks interested in running for office must obtain at least 25-signatures of voters registered in Lamoine and turn in the petition to Town Clerk no later than January 29, 2011.

The Selectmen’s seat currently held by Cynthia Donaldson will be elected, as will the Assessor’s seat currently held by Terry Towne. Both are three year terms.

Another Tower Proposed

(Lamoine) - A 2nd communications tower is being proposed in Lamoine— this time on privately owned land. Global Towers Partners submitted a pre-application to Lamoine’s Planning Board in November to locate the structure on land owned by Christopher Luck off Mill Road. The project will require Site Plan Review approval from the Planning Board, possibly this winter.

Kiosks Installed at Town Parks

(Lamoine) - Wielding a gas powered post hole digger, bags of cement and stone, the Lamoine Parks Commission installed two kiosks this fall—one at Bloomfield Park and one at Lamoine Beach Park. The installation marked the culmination of a nearly 4-year process, and a vision for better public information at both facilities.

Former Selectman and carpenter Kermit Theall was chosen to build the triangular wooden structures on cedar posts with cedar shingle roofs. The panels took the longest to fabricate—first undergoing a very rigorous design and fact checking process, then off to a printing company before final lamination into a half dozen interpretive panels, three on each kiosk. It was also a fairly costly project, exceeding \$3,000 in total once all the work was tallied. Selectmen granted permission to draw from the Parks Fund to cover the expenses that had not been covered by funding from previous budgets.



The Lamoine Parks Commissioners flank the kiosk at Lamoine Beach Park following installation on October 17. (From left—Chair Kerry Galeaz, Doug Jones, Christa Brey, Rich Brey, and Nathan Mason. Not pictured, Susan Belanger)

The work was combined with a general fix up of Bloomfield Park (at Blunt’s Pond) which saw new pads raked out for the picnic tables, which have been anchored down into cement to discourage vandals that for some reason have pushed the tables into the pond from time to time. Commission chair Kerry Galeaz says finishing the project has helped fulfill the vision the Commission has had for both parks for many years.

Town Reviewing State Building Code

(Lamoine) - Because Lamoine’s population is less than 2,000, the town is not required to uphold the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC). However, there is a catch, and assuming the code continues to be state law, it could have a drastic impact on building activity.

The MUBEC combines several national codes, and requires numerous inspections throughout the building process. The full code is not available for viewing for free at this time. Deputy Code

Enforcement Officer Michael Jordan is working to become a certified MUBEC inspector. The Lamoine Building and Land Use ordinance requires a certificate of occupancy, however that requirement is rendered moot by the MUBEC because the town has not adopted that code. An occupancy certificate implies that construction meets the MUBEC. Folks building can hire a third party inspector if a finance company requires an occupancy certificate.

Planning Board Turns Down Pit Expansion

(Lamoine) - For a second time in a year, Lamoine’s Planning Board has turned down an application by Doug Gott & Sons to extract gravel from property the company owns on Lamoine Beach Road. Following several meetings that exceeded three hours in length, the Board voted December 7th to deny the Site Plan Review and Gravel Extraction permits for Map 3 Lot 8, which is adjacent to a presently permitted extraction operation. The proposal from Gott would have expanded that pit by 4-acres.

In a prepared statement, Planning Board Chair John Holt said “large scale industrial uses constitute something of a threat to the pastoral nature of the town.” Holt argued, and the board unanimously agreed, that Lamoine’s Comprehensive Plan allows the Planning Board to deny new permits in areas that are primarily residential in nature. Several people testified at the public hearing, most in

opposition to the Gott proposal. Resident Robin Emery brought a recording of the sound made by large trucks that run by her home and played that recording during her testimony against the proposed pit expansion. Ms. Emery testified that the noise and dust from truck traffic is bothersome.

The Planning Board had turned down an earlier application from Gott for gravel extraction from the same parcel. That denial was upheld by the Board of Appeals. The new application had a different configuration and was presented as an expansion of the existing pit on Map 3 Lot 6.

Surveyor Steve Salsbury says Gott and their attorney will review the video recordings of the past three meetings and the written decision denying the application’s approval before deciding whether to bring the matter to the Board of Appeals.

Selectmen, Planning Boards Talk Business

(Lamoine) - Seeking to remove perceived impediments to business location, the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board met in December to discuss whether the town is in fact perceived as unfriendly to business. There was discussion about possibly rezoning the area between Buttermilk Road and Douglas Highway to allow more business opportunities. The two boards also concluded that it probably is time to review the town’s Comprehensive Plan which was last updated in 1996. Selectmen will discuss a possible long term planning committee formation in 2011. The Planning Board noted that it has virtually no time to actually plan, as it deals with permit issuance at most meetings.

Cell Tower On!

(Lamoine) - Verizon Wireless says it has turned on the cellular telephone tower in Lamoine as of mid-December. Residents who subscribe to Verizon cell phone service noticed a substantial improvement in cell phone reception when the tower was activated. The cell tower was erected on town owned land near the closed landfill under a lease agreement with the town.

Improper Deck Still Present

(Lamoine) - A deck found to be too close to the shores of the Skillings River by Lamoine’s Code Enforcement Officer has yet to be removed as ordered. CEO Dennis Ford issued a notice of violation to Robert Seibel of El Cajon, California last spring after the Board of Assessors noticed the deck during their property update inspections. Mr. Seibel appealed the notice and demand that the deck be removed to the Lamoine Board of Appeals, which upheld the Code Enforcement Officer’s findings.

In its decision rendered in late September, the Appeals Board ordered the deck to be removed by October 15, 2010. A check by CEO Ford on that date found that the deck was still present. The Board of Selectmen referred the matter to Town Attorney Tony Beardsley. The Appeals Board decision also gave Mr. Seibel 45-days to appeal its decision to Superior Court, an option that was not taken by the November 15, 2010 deadline. Attorney Beardsley has written to Mr. Seibel asking that the deck be removed.

Under Lamoine’s Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, violators can be fined between \$100 and \$2,500 per day that the violation exists. The town is seeking voluntary compliance at this point.

Subdivision Extension Granted

(Lamoine) - A subdivision approved a couple of years ago by the Planning and Appeals Boards has yet to see anything more than a road constructed with a sign advertising lots for sale. Developer Wayne Wright of Coastline Homes requested a 1-year extension from the Lamoine Planning Board in order to complete installation of a fire hydrant and tank and for utility lines leading to the house lots.

The Building and Land Use Ordinance requires that completion of things like roads and utilities be started within one year of approval and substantially complete within two years, unless an extension is granted. The economy saw the bottom fall out of the subdivision lot and home construction market in the past two years, prompting the request from Wright for the extension which was granted.

Permits Issued

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford issued the following permits for the 4th quarter of 2010:

Nbr	Name	Project
41	Moldawer, Alan	Residence
42	Therrien, Charles	Addition
43	VanAmringe, J.	Barn
44	Coleman, Ava	Roof over deck
45	Meyer, Chris	Garage
46	Wilson, Carl	Garage
47	Mannisto, Greg	Residence
48	Hokansson, N.	Garage, Deck
49	Tehennepe, G.	Garage

Gravel Permits Renewed

(Lamoine) - The Planning Board has approved the renewal applications for several gravel pit operations. Included in the list of approved permits were the RF Jordan pit on Lamoine Beach Road, and pits operated by Harold MacQuinn, Inc. on Douglas Highway Pinkhams Flats, and on both sides of MacQuinn Road.

The largest MacQuinn pit on Douglas Highway received conditional renewal and expansion permission from the Planning Board at its November meeting.

Two gravel pits operated by John W. Goodwin Jr., one off Lamoine Beach Road and one off Partridge Cove Road, expired in October. A representative for the Southwest Harbor based contractor had contacted the Planning Board in November to ask to be placed on the agenda in December, but the paper work was not ready. The town may issue a notice of violation prior to the January Planning Board meeting at which time an application may be ready.

New Contractor Starts Plowing Work

(Lamoine) - The first plowable event of the season brought some growing pains for the new plow crew for Lamoine. Richard McMullen said he checked at 4:30 AM, and it wasn't snowing, so he got some more shuteye. It started about 4:45, and that put his Lawn Enforcement crew behind the eight-ball. They eventually got the roads plowed and sanded.

The second storm brought a much faster response, and no complaints were lodged about the plowing job. McMullen said he had some sander issues for that storm which he'll be working on between plowings.

McMullen is starting a 3-year contract to plow the roads in Lamoine, outbidding Nankervis Trucking which held the contract for the past 9-years. The public is asked to call the town hall (667-2242) if there are any plowing issues on the public roads during the winter, unless the road is Route 184 which the Maine DOT plows (941-4500).

MDOT Responses Draws Praise

(Lamoine) - Maine's Department of Transportation crew that takes care of Route 184, Route 204, and Mud Creek Road in the summer months drew praise from the Board of Selectmen for their



Bye-Bye Nasty Bump!

The MDOT excavates a boulder from underneath Douglas Highway that someone had dubbed "Nasty Bump" with spray paint.

work in the summer and fall of 2010. Calls for road problems have been handled swiftly by Joe Lacerda and his crew which is based in Ellsworth. A rock that had protruded on Douglas Hwy in North Lamoine was finally removed after a call from the town hall. Lacerda also saw to it that Mud Creek Road received a shim coating of pavement to even up some of the wheel ruts on the road before winter. That should make the plowing job a lot easier, and it comes following a meeting last year with the plowing contractor. Lacerda says he hopes to be able to pave and improve drainage on Mud Creek Road next summer. The sign crew also installed a number of brand new directional signs (and replaced one that got whacked sometime this fall) on Pinkhams Flats and Douglas Highway.



'Tis the Season to be plowing

A Maine Department of Transportation plow scrapes Douglas Highway by the Town Hall on December 6, 2010

Roadside Trimmed

(Lamoine) - Needles Eye Road is a bit easier to navigate thanks to a tree trimming project. Selectmen awarded the job to George Crawford of Lumberjack Lane. He submitted the lowest of three bids received for the job at \$3,500.

2011/12 Budget Recommendations Made

(Lamoine) - The lagging revenues and a request from the Board of Assessors to not tap the surplus fund for the next year may mean a small property tax increase to fund the municipal portion of the 2011/12 budget. Lamoine's Budget Committee spent the fall reviewing budget submissions from the various town departments. There were very few adjustments from the original submissions. The biggest increase will be for paving portions of Mill Road and Shore Road in the spring of 2012. The cost of paving and a longer paving area caused that line to increase approximately \$52,000. The entire municipal budget increase is just over \$54,000.

The Budget Committee recommended a \$5,750 increase in the administration line. Increased insurance costs from the addition of a 2nd full time employee and increased tax lien costs (which are offset by increased revenues) contributed to that increase.

Social Service Agency requests were recommended to

increase by \$2,400. Four agencies which had been funded in previous years but did not submit requests for the current fiscal year will be added to the list for next year.

The Public Safety budget is proposed to increase by \$3,080, mainly due to Hepatitis "A" Shots being given to rescue personnel. Solid Waste is proposed to drop by \$1,517.00 due to decreased costs for landfill water monitoring. Code Enforcement and Planning budgets were basically unchanged from the current fiscal year.

There are two minor construction projects proposed in the 2011/12 budget. The Parks Commission plans to build an outhouse to serve Bloomfield Park at an approximate cost of \$3,100. And the entrance cover at the Lamoine Town Hall will be replaced, as the current structure is quickly rotting. The cost guesstimate for that project should not exceed \$5,000.

Revenues are projected to be down by \$33,136.13. Less surplus funding would be used and excise taxes and code enforcement fees are projected to all for another year.

Cracked Railing to be Fixed



RSU 24 Representative Brett Jones looks over the railing on the access ramp into the town hall. A repair crew has removed the curved part at the right which cracked and was very sharp.

(Lamoine) - The traditional Maine "duct tape fix" actually served fairly well on the cracked end of the ramp railing leading into the town hall, but a permanent fix is coming. ADA Fence removed the end in early December. Apparently water had gotten into the galvanized pipe and settled in the end of the end, then froze, causing the metal to split. Several folks reported that the split was very sharp when they grabbed onto the rail, prompting the duct tape fix.

The railing was installed in 2007 in response to accessibility issues by the Secretary of State's office which helped to pay for the \$885 project.

Privy Proposed For Park

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Parks Commission is proposing that an outhouse/changing room be constructed at Bloomfield Park on

Blunt's Pond in the 2011/12 fiscal year. Commissioners say it's a project whose time has come due to significant increases in use at the park. A \$3,100 line was added to the budget proposal, and Selectmen endorsed the idea, saying that it's a good time to build. Town meeting will have the final funding say over the project.

DEP Orders Water Filter for Home

(Lamoine) - The town annually tests four homes for signs of contamination from the landfill that was closed and capped in 1994. The results of those water tests were analyzed recently by Maine's Department of Environmental Protection which concluded the manganese level in one of the wells was high enough to warrant a water filtration system be installed. While not a health issue, concentrations of manganese above .05 milligrams per liter can cause water discoloration, poor taste and odor. In high enough concentrations, it can be toxic. The home in question had a manganese level of 0.059 mg/l, triggering an action level by the DEP. That action will be to install a water filter system at the Lamoine Beach Road home where the water was

tested last April. Selectmen met with the homeowner in December to discuss the communication from the MDEP.

While a filter system is relatively expensive and was not in the 2010/11 budget, the DEP will pay for 90% of the installation. Additionally, the DEP has relaxed the materials for which the town is required to test. That reduction should significantly reduce the cost of running the water through the state health laboratory. For the four wells tested last April, the cost was \$1,812 or \$453 per well.

The test results are sent to all four homeowners annually as well as the Maine DEP. The town informed all four of the MDEP findings and invited them to attend the December meeting. It's expected the filter system will be ordered in January.

Configuration Changes at Transfer Station

(Lamoine) - Traffic should flow a lot smoother at the Lamoine Transfer Station thanks to some minor changes in where the collection bins are located. The cardboard dumpsters have been moved to beside the outhouse while the two large rolloff containers for newsprint, plastics, glass and tin have been moved to the cement pad where the cardboard dumpsters had been stored. The cardboard containers are back in the same spot as when the facility opened in 1993.

Facility manager Bill Fennelly came up with the new configuration after

almost 15-years of the previous setup. Vehicles should park in front of the cardboard containers and off load all the recyclables at that location for distribution to the correct containers.

Pine Tree Waste was extremely cooperative in moving the containers around, and with repairing the trash dumpsters on the other side of the transfer station. Several of those dumpsters had rusted bottoms and were leaking. Fennelly will monitor the new setup to make sure it works efficiently. The hope is that it will make snow removal a lot easier.

Disposal Settlement Signed

(Lamoine) - Local trash hauler Russell Boynton Jr. has signed a consent agreement with the Board of Selectmen, agreeing to pay restitution for bringing out of town trash to the Lamoine Transfer Station in 2009 and 2010. Boynton owes the town \$1,028.13 for trash brought from homes and businesses in Sullivan and Trenton to Lamoine. He's expected to pay shortly. Selectmen opted for the fine rather than to ban Boynton from using the transfer station, which would have inconvenienced a lot of residents and put Boynton's business in jeopardy.

Assessors Request Legal Help

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's Board of Assessors has requested approval to use an attorney in two or three pending cases expected to go before the Maine Board of Property Tax Review. Old Point Inc. has appealed its valuation of land off Shore Road, and the Board expects both Maine Coast Baptist Church and Barbara Davis to appeal the denial of tree growth enrollment status to land parcels off Route 204. Both of the latter parties paid substantial penalties when the properties were withdrawn in 2008.

Job Description Update in Works

(Lamoine) - The folks appointed by the Selectmen that operate your town government do a very good job in their various appointed positions. Just what those jobs are, though, become unclear at times. The last time job descriptions were written was in the mid 1990's. Fifteen or so years of experience later, those job descriptions are due for an upgrade.

The Board of Selectmen is currently in the middle of editing the proposed new set of job descriptions. Each has been formatted in the same manner, clearly laying out whether the person holding the job is compensated, is under an employment contract with the town, or is strictly an appointed volunteer.

In reviewing the various appointed positions in town, it was discovered that several of the jobs that are required by ordinance or state statute, and for which people hold appointments, do not have a job description. Positions such as General Assistance Administrator, Addressing Officer, and Emergency Management Director (all positions held by the Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen) will soon have an official description.

Appointees have been sent a copy of the proposed update. A few editorial changes from the original have been made. Selectmen may approve the new descriptions after the first of the year.

Progress Made After Safety Inspection

(Lamoine) - Maine's Bureau of Labor Standards (BLS) conducted a courtesy compliance inspection requested by the town in September. A fairly long list of issues came back for both the Transfer Station and the Fire Department to address over the next six months, and progress is being made to come into full compliance.

Several written programs were being developed by the fire department which will require a training session for each firefighter over the winter. Among the programs being developed or improved are an emergency action plan, which is basically an evacuation plan should there be a fire at the fire station. Escape plans from the fire house were posted. A hazard communications program is nearly finished which identifies the various chemicals firefighters work with and how to handle overexposure.

Training records and SCBA (airpacks) inspection records were among the bigger issues at the fire station. Firefighters are required to have on file all training certificates, and several were retrieved from home for filing at the station. The airpacks are to be inspected on a monthly basis, something that had slipped through the cracks but is being done now. Depending on the firefighter's age, annual testing is required to make sure masks fit properly and that the firefighter is physically fit to wear the SCBA.

Very few issues existed at the Transfer Station, though the operator will be required to receive fire extinguisher training. A facility inspection list will be filled out monthly.

Lots Less Hazardous Waste

(Lamoine) - Lamoine residents brought a lot of hazardous waste to the annual pickup at MDI High School in October, meaning there is a lot less of the material being stored in private homes.

A report from the Acadia Disposal District shows that Lamoine residents brought 195 gallons of hazardous materials to the collection site, along with 57 units of universal waste (TV's computer monitors, fluorescent lights etc.). The town had the 4th most amount of hazardous waste, trailing Bar Harbor, Mt. Desert, and Cranberry Isles, and the amount was comparable to 2008's levels.

The disposal cost, though, isn't cheap. In total, Lamoine will be billed \$984, slightly above the \$750 budgeted for the year. The town has participated with the other members of the MDI League of Towns on the Household Hazardous Waste collection for a number of years, averaging about 110-gallons of waste brought to the collection each year.

Display House Numbers *It Could Save a Life!*

(Lamoine) - Firefighters have a straightforward and inexpensive request. Place your address on your house or on BOTH sides of your mailbox. Many homes in Lamoine remain unmarked, making it difficult to find the physical address for firefighters, police and ambulance personnel.

Many folks choose to mark their location with the number on their mailbox. However, volunteers often approach scenes from the unmarked side, and that also makes it difficult to determine the correct address.

Lamoine's Road Naming and Numbering Ordinance states "Where the residence or structure is over 50 (fifty) feet from the edge of the road right-of-way, the assigned number shall be displayed on a post, fence, wall, the mail box, or on some structure at the property line next to the walk or access drive to the residence or structure. Such number shall be plainly visible from the road."



Another Storm, Another Flood
Mud Creek Road between Bob-O-Link Lane and Chickadee Lane flooded twice this quarter during heavy rain. Lamoine's Fire Department placed barricades in December and November.

Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement Signed

(Lamoine) - When one town goes, all four will go. That's pretty much the agreement signed by the fire chiefs in Lamoine, Ellsworth, Hancock and Trenton that went into effect on October 1, 2010. The agreement states that when a structure fire is reported in any of the four towns, the fire departments from the other three towns will automatically be paged to assist.

It didn't take long for the agreement to kick in, though the first call in Ellsworth turned out to be a false alarm. The 2nd call, though, was a big one. Jim's Auto on Foster Street in Ellsworth had a garage fully engulfed in flames on October 29th. The other three towns responded to Ellsworth quickly, and with the manpower and equipment on scene, the fire was knocked down before it could spread to nearby buildings. The Lamoine crew was assigned to the Ellsworth station for coverage and assisted the EFD with getting their trucks ready for the next call after returning from the fire scene.

Lamoine was the next test for the agreement when a fire was reported at a Lamoine Beach Road residence as getting into the wall. On arrival, Lamoine FD personnel found a hole had burned through an exterior wall. Personnel from the other towns helped investigate for extension of the fire and confirmed that it had been extinguished. Other responding personnel helped move the partially disabled home owner to a neighbors home to keep warm while smoke was evacuated from the house. The four departments and Bar Harbor responded to a house fire call on the Bar Harbor Road in Trenton December 19th.

All fire departments in Hancock County are part of a county wide mutual aid agreement, and any department can request manpower and equipment from any other department at no charge. However, the automatic aid agreement is something new between the four towns involved. Other communities in the county already run together as an automatic backup, some on all calls. The fire chiefs involved say having a larger pool of manpower to respond instantly should greatly benefit all four towns involved in the agreement.

New Pagers, Radios Arrive



(Lamoine) - Volunteer firefighters in Lamoine are carrying new pagers just like the one pictured, replacing some units that were over 20-years old. Funding for the conversion to the new pagers was approved by town meeting in April 2010. The pagers, hand held 2-way radios and truck mounted 2-way radios will all be compatible with narrow band broadcasting which has been mandated by the Federal Communications Commission to be in place by January 1, 2013.

LVFD Called Often

(Lamoine) - The last quarter of 2010 has proved to be a busy one, though the majority of the calls for Lamoine's Volunteer Fire Department was for downed trees. Seven of the 22 calls saw firefighters cut limbs and toss them out of the road. Two more responded to flooding on Mud Creek Road (see above). Four fires under the automatic mutual aid agreement received a response (see article). There was an alarm call on Buttermilk Road the literally came in during a demonstration of how the new pagers work (response time was very fast), three motor vehicles accidents, one involving serious injuries in early October on Raccoon Cove Road. Another accident on Douglas Highway two days before Christmas caused broken bones and substantial damage. Two chimney fires were reported in mid December at two Partridge Cove Road residences. A report of a strange odor brought firefighters to Meadow Point Road in December. The biggest loss fire occurred on the last day of 2010 when a wood chipper caught fire on Partridge Cove Road, causing an owner estimated \$300,000 in damage.

The fire department was also called twice to assist County Ambulance with lifting patients.

The LVFD has responded to 59 calls in 2010, which has been about the typical number for a year.

Dinner Raises LVFD Funds

(Lamoine) - Another large turnout for the Lamoine Fire Department's annual clam chowder dinner was deemed a success. Chef Albert Herrick and his son David drew many compliments for the batch of chowder, and there was very little left over. Julie Herrick organized the donation effort, and the firefighters served as waiters. The final tally showed about \$1,500 raised. Many thanks to those who donated food to the dinner and to those who joined their friends and neighbors for a good dinner.

Wreath Adorns Fire Station

(Lamoine) - The huge wreath hanging over the bay doors at the Lamoine Fire Station has been supplied for the past several years by resident Peter Mayo of J & P Produce in Trenton. Firefighters removed the remnants of the previous year's wreath from the heavy wire ring and Mayo skillfully wrapped fresh greens around it. The new wreath was re-hung by a volunteer in early December. Many thanks to Mr. Mayo and all involved.

Restitution Completed

(Lamoine) - A 17-year old Northeast Harbor boy who smashed out the window at Lamoine's Town Hall last March has made full restitution to the town for the expenses incurred in the case. The juvenile broke into the town office to call 9-1-1 at 2AM on the morning of March 27, 2010. He told police that his girlfriend was having a medical issue and requested an ambulance.

State police charged the youngster with criminal mischief. Damage to the window and the resulting cleanup costs totaled \$644, which did not include replacing any of the floorboard nicked by a large chunk of pavement thrown through the front door window.

New Inquiry Made About Old Grave

(Lamoine) - A descendent of the Mosley family that settled the area in the 1700s recently wrote to the town asking about an ancient burial site of one of those settlers. The concern was that the small cemetery plot was still preserved as a large wood cutting operation was taking place on the land surrounding it. The writer asked who would care for



The stones marking the Mosley lot.

the burial plot. Selectman Jo Cooper said the stone had been preserved by the late Joseph Lear and her husband helped Mr. Lear return it to the burial area. She suggested that the writer contact members of the Lamoine Historical Society. The town is obligated to maintain grave sites for Veterans, but the folks laid to rest did not serve in the military, and there is no taxpayer responsibility to maintain the lot. The landowner, though, is obligated to maintain public access to the burial site.

Slow Count May Lead to Machine

(Lamoine) - After three teams of ballot clerks spent nearly 8-hours hand tallying the ballots cast on November 2, 2010, it may be time to invest in a tabulating machine. Town Clerk Jennifer Kovacs is exploring what options might be available and what the plans from the Secretary of State's office might be on a machine standard.

The long count came because there were so many ballots cast (901), so many state and county races (12), and a statutory requirement to count each lot of ballots twice. In addition, two local issues were decided, which prompted moderator Stu Marckoon and Kovacs to count those themselves, fearing that the ballot clerks would be further exhausted had the local race been added to the burden.

As it was, the six counters were at it until about 4:00 AM. The final tally of Lamoine saw voters slightly buck the statewide outcome, narrowly preferring Eliot Cutler for Governor over statewide winner Paul LePage, and casting more "no" votes on the casino question (which narrowly passed statewide) and a bond issue to establish a dental school in Maine (which also passed handily).

The turnout for Lamoine was slightly higher than the statewide average at 59%. More than 120 voters opted to cast their votes via the absentee ballot method. Parking during the election was difficult at time due to the high turnout.



Lamoine's ballot clerk teams (l-r) Franco Colella, Martha Nickerson, Edna Coyne and Diane Carter worked until after 4AM counting the ballots from the November, 2010 election. Not pictured are Marion McDevitt and Kay Bragdon

Marlboro Cemetery Care Explored

(Lamoine) - Just who exactly should be paying for the upkeep of the small Marlboro Cemetery between Seal Point Road and Lydia's Lane may be further clarified in 2011. The town holds some funds for the care of lots that were accepted decades ago by the town meeting. A couple of times a year a contractor mows what grass there is between the stones, and town officials place an American flag on the Veterans' graves around Memorial Day.

There may or may not be some sort of formal cemetery association. The State Treasurer's Office lists unclaimed funds for the Marlboro Cemetery Association—seemingly abandoned when Calvin Smith passed away several years ago. His son, fire chief George "Skip" Smith said while

he's interested in seeing that the cemetery is maintained, he isn't particularly interested in the financial part of that. It's now known how much money is currently held as abandoned property by the State Treasurer.

Selectmen met with Chief Smith and will follow up that meeting with another on January 6th with other folks who might have information about what, if any, association might exist to pay for the care of the graveyard. A good map of the graves would be helpful, as would some consensus on how to proceed to secure the funds originally set aside for lot care. Whether any more lots could be sold may also be an issue

Several people have come forward to say they're interested in seeing what should be done to care for the old cemetery.

School Choice Supported, Control Decried

(Lamoine) - The committee that advises Lamoine's representative to RSU 24 got some answers from the public to some nagging questions at a forum held in December. About 35-people attended the event run by the Local School Advisory Committee, and a fair amount of diversity was represented in those attending.

On the question of high school choice, the folks in attendance were vocal and nearly unanimous about continuing to offer Lamoine students the opportunity to attend high schools outside of the Regional School Unit. About half of the high school aged students from Lamoine attend MDI High School.

The group also said it realizes that local control of its school and the policies regarding high school students has been lost by joining the RSU. Some in attendance encouraged withdrawal from RSU 24 when the 3-year anniversary comes up in 2012.

Those gathered had high support for restoring programs at the Lamoine Consolidated School such as full time music and phys ed, and agreed that Principal Ann McCann has been a good fit for the staff and students.

Support for a pre-school program for 4-year olds was limited, noting that opportunities exist elsewhere.

Town to Tax Acquire Land Parcel

(Lamoine) - An unbuildable subdivision lot located along Partridge Cove Road will belong to the taxpayers of Lamoine thanks to a maturing 2008/09 tax lien filed at the Hancock County Registry of Deeds in July 2009. The parcel was originally sold by developer Wayne Wright

as part of the Partridge Cove Estates subdivision, but the Army Corps of Engineers found a vernal pool on the parcel and shut down a building project. The former owners settled with Wright, but never transferred the parcel back to him, and have not paid the property taxes. Wright said he has no use for the parcel and is opting to have the town take possession through the lien process.

By town meeting policy, the Selectmen are to offer the parcel back to the former owners for all unpaid taxes and fees, and then to Wright. If not, the parcel could be auctioned or retained by the town.

Keep In Touch!

(Lamoine) - Several residents remarked recently that they were unaware of the school forum that took place in December. Just a reminder that the town office e-mails out town notices to folks who want to receive them.

To be reminded of meetings and things like car registration, voting dates, dog registrations and the like, please fill out a form available at the town office. You can also check the town's website (www.lamoine-me.gov) for the up to date calendar of events.

Conservation Commission News

By Carol Korty

(Lamoine) - The Lamoine Conservation annual award will be formerly presented at Town Meeting, March 16th. We hope there will be a large attendance to honor this year's recipient.

The GET WET! water testing project will continue for the fifth year this January with Lamoine 5th and 6th graders and Ellsworth H.S. chemistry classes. A public forum and presentation is planned for early spring. We'll give specifics nearer that time.

Lamoine Conservation Commission has recently joined with other organizations as Stakeholders of Upper Frenchman Bay. The purpose of this working group is to define and put into action ways to protect the natural resources of the Bay -- both for sustainable harvesting and for preserving the beauty of the area. This ambitious project involves the whole watershed feeding the Bay, i.e. areas of Winter Harbor, Gouldsboro, Sullivan, Sorrento, Hancock, T9SD, Waltham, Lamoine, Trenton, and Bar Harbor. Stakeholders plan to meet monthly. The January meeting, with facilitator Natalie Springuel, will begin the process of sorting out common goals and initial conflicts and develop a strategy for working together.

“Rumors” Packs ‘em in

by Kathy McGlinchey

(Lamoine) - Lamoine Community Arts presented Neil Simon's farce *Rumors* to packed houses for four performances, at the Lamoine Grange. Directed by LCA's Artist Director Carol Korty, the comedy was the group's first attempt at a full length play, as well as the first time presenting a play over two weekends. The extraordinary set, which transformed the stage of the Grange into the living room of a pair of wealthy Westchester County socialites, was designed by Korty and Dale Macurdy, and built by Wayne Lawrence and Bill Reynolds. The audience, some who traveled from as far away as New Jersey, appeared to enjoy the production nearly as much as the ten actors, who were all Lamoine residents.

LCA plans a number of activities for the winter months with community members encouraged to participate. Open play readings will be held the last Saturday in January, February and March. Contact Diane Sanderson (667-7969), Lolly Lovett (667-9694) or Kathy McGlinchey (667-7877). Musicians and singers can join their neighbors for a "Pickin' Gathering" at Lynn Tscheiller's home Thursday evenings. Call 667-0552 for information.

LCA is also exploring ideas with staff at the Lamoine School for a participation theater project involving the students in March. Lamoine Community Arts holds its Annual Meeting in August, but welcomes new members at any time throughout the course of the year. Contact Barbara Bland at 667-1814 or Diane Sanderson.

Ink Means Cash

By Lisa Branch

(Lamoine) - Lamoine Consolidated School currently ranks #73 out of 9594 schools. Thanks to everyone who has been helping the Lamoine Patrons with recycling of ink cartridges, cell phone and laser cartridges. The Patrons have been using the money we have raised through Funding Factory recycle program to redo the playground behind the school. Come check it out, if you haven't seen it already. We have plans to remove the old playground to make room for more parking. We just recently purchased a new slide to replace the old one that was broken. If you have any old and used cartridges or cell phone, please drop of at Lamoine School. Don't forget to check your place of work, they may be just throwing good money away. Their trash is the kids playground.

First Check From Hodgkins Trust

(Lamoine) - A nice surprise came in the mail in late December in the form of a check for \$4,805.00 from the Allen and Leurene Hodgkins Memorial Trust. Earlier in 2010, Bar Harbor Trust Services which holds the fund for investments, petitioned the probate court to change the provision for interest distribution so that only \$200,000 was required in the account instead of the original \$350,000. That request was approved.

Under the terms of the trust, the money will be used for town buildings and parks capital expenses. The annual town meeting in March will ask for funding to construct an outhouse at Bloomfield Park and to repair the front entrance overhang at the Lamoine Town Hall which will cost in excess of the distribution.

Dog Licenses Due—Late Fees Increase

(Lamoine) - If you have a dog and have not registered it for 2011, you have a grace period until the end of January to obtain the license. Maine State Law requires all dogs at least six months old to be registered with the town clerk. Registration requires proof of a current rabies shot. Costs are \$6 for neutered dogs and \$11 for pups that are capable of reproducing.

Starting February 1st, the town is required to charge a \$25.00 late fee on all unregistered dogs. Reminders will be mailed out in February to dog owners that have previously registered their pets and have not shown up to re-register by the deadline. Additionally, the State of Maine is now providing rabies certificates to the town office from the various veterinarians which alerts the clerk's office to the presence of dogs that have never been registered. Those dogs are

Vital Statistics

(Lamoine) - New state regulations regarding privacy of birth certificates now prevent us from listing the babies born of Lamoine residents. Folks will have to check the local newspaper listings provided by the hospitals instead. We can report that there were five babies from Lamoine born during the last quarter of 2010. Four are boys, one is a girl. Two were born at MDI Hospital, two at Maine Coast Memorial Hospital, and one at Eastern Maine Medical.

Lamoine lost **Charles Robinson** of Walker Road on September 30th. **Raymond Hisler** of Douglas Highway died on November 2nd. **Marjorie Johnson** of Narrows Way died on November 4th. Long time resident **Mildred Hamor** died December 15th. And, we've received word that Lamoine native **Henrietta Lear Jackson** passed away in Portland on November 16th.

One couple was married in Lamoine. **Justin Smith and Jessica Rafferty** exchanged vows at the Lamoine Town Office on November 10th.

Grange News

(Lamoine) - Third graders at the Lamoine Consolidated School received dictionaries from the Lamoine-Bayside Grange. Yvonne Brann of the Grange reports that fifteen students received the dictionaries this year, and they had a lot of questions about the Grange and what it does.

The Grange has become famous for its turkey dinners, and the funds raised from the last summer's several dinners have been used to install seven brand new windows at the Grange Hall. The turkey dinners will resume in June of 2011.

also subject to the late fee. If the town office received a notice of rabies vaccination for an unregistered, a letter is sent to the owner requesting registration within 10-days.

Animal Control Officer Mike Arsenault is authorized to issue a summons for folks who refuse to register their dogs, which can result in a court fine.



Gifts and food baskets from the American Legion Post 207 Christmas for Families program were dropped off at the Lamoine Town Hall. The donations were distributed to ten families on an anonymous list.

January 2011— Lamoine Schedule

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1-Office, Transfer Station Closed
2	3-Transfer Stn Open 8-5	4-7PM Planning Board	5-7PM Assessors	6-7PM Selectmen	7	8
9	10	11-7PM Fire Dept	12-7PM Conservation Cmsn	13	14	15
16	17-Office Closed (Holiday)	18-6:30 Planning Board 7PM Fire Dept	19	20-7PM Selectmen	21	22
23	24	25-7PM Fire Dept	26	27	28	29-Nomination Papers Due, Office open 8-12
30	31					

February 2011— Lamoine Schedule

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1-7PM Planning Board 7PM Fire Dept	2-7PM Assessors	3-7PM Selectmen	4	5-Office open 8-12
6	7	8-7PM Fire Dept	9-7PM Conservation Cmsn	10	11-Absentee Ballots Available	12
13	14	15-7PM Parks Cmsn 7PM Fire Dept	16	17-7PM Selectmen	18	19
20	21-Office closed (Holiday)	22-7PM Fire Dept.	23	24	25	26-Office open 8-12
27	28-Taxes Due					

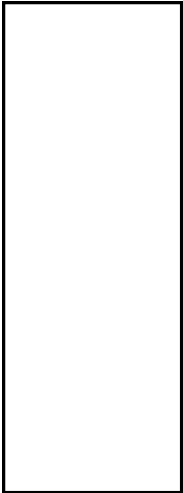
March 2011— Lamoine Schedule

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1-7PM Planning Board 7PM Fire Dept	2-7PM Assessors	3-7PM Selectmen	4	5-Open 8-12
6	7	8	9-7PM Conservation Cmsn	10	11	12
13	14	15-Town Election 10am—8pm	16-Open Town Meeting 6PM	17-7PM Selectmen	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26-Open 8-12
27	28	29	30	31		

The Lamoine Quarterly
January 2011

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- 1 Town Meeting Date Set
 - 2 Cell Tower Active
 - 3 Privy in the Park
 - 4 Transfer Station Update
 - 5 Display House Number
 - 5 Mutual Aid Pact Signed
 - 6 Old Grave Found
 - 6 Vote Machine Need?
 - 7 Trust Check Received

And Much, Much More!



Town of Lamoine
606 Douglas Highway
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